CLASSIFICATION CONTIDENTIAL Approved For Release 1999/09/08: CIA-RDP82-00457R001800420004-6 NO. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Syria/Palestine

DATE DISTR.

23 August 1948

SUBJECT

Syrian President Orders Qawuqji and The Mufti to End Feud

NO. OF PAGES

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

25X1A

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

ACQUIRED

- Issam Inglizi, Secretary General at the Syrian Presidency, has stated that on about 2 August 1948, President Quwwatli called the Grand Mufti and Fawzi Qawuqji to his office and informed them that their feud was to come to an end. The President said that friction between top Arab leaders had been during the past months one of the most disrupting elements to civilian morale, and that the resulting loss of confidence in Arab leaders had hurt Syria even more than other Arab countries.
- 2. According to Inglizi, the Mufti and Qawuqji were ordered to work out between them a joint plan for continuation of the war in Palestine. The President left details of the plan up to the two leaders, making only the general suggestion that Qawuqji should command the army and that the Mufti should head the "People's Committee" for Palestine. Inglizi Predicted that the Mufti would be the more likely of the two to object to an agreement following this general suggestion because, while Qawuqji's military authority will be clear and unquestioned, the Mufti's authority will be vague, and difficult to enforce.
- 3. In accordance with the President's orders, the Mufti is working on a proposal. It will, however, contain provisions for strengthening his own status and a request for President Quwwatli's assurance of support on the political plane.

Peedmont No. NO CHANGE in Class. DECLASSITIAD Class. CHANGED TO: TS 304 semo, 4 8px 77 Auth: DON REG. 77/1763

Approved For Gelease 1999 09 08 FOR APPROVED DISTRIBUTION ARMY